



**PATENT**

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|---------------------|---|--|
| Applicants          | : | Bryan W. Shirk et al.                              |
| Serial No.          | : | 09/817,672   |
| Filing Date         | : | March 26, 2001                                     |
| For                 | : | BIODEGRADABLE VEHICLE<br>COMPONENTS                |
| Group Art Unit      | : | 3611   |
| Examiner            | : | Lee S. Lum   |
| Attorney Docket No. | : | TRW(VSSIM)4686-1<br><br>Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1400 |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2003, please amend the  
above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.